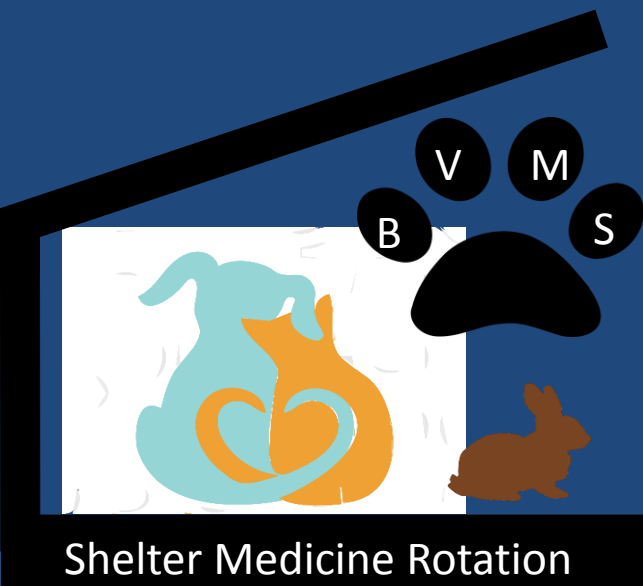


# Shelter Medicine Rotation

Maureen Carnan



## What is Shelter Medicine?



- A complex and unique blend of individual and population medicine
- Focus on physical and behavioural wellbeing to ensure good welfare
- Pragmatic case approach
- Positive role in the community

## Course Design

2 weeks Scottish SPCA Animal Rehoming Centre  
 2 weeks Cats Protection Adoption Centre and Martin Veterinary Centre  
 1 day visit to Dogs Trust Rehoming Centre Glasgow

## Aims

- Intake exams/triage
- Vaccination protocols
- Disease prevention and screening
- Pragmatic case management
- Managing disease outbreaks



**SCOTTISH SPCA**  
Scotland's Animal Welfare Charity

- Behavioural wellbeing
- Minor surgical procedures
- Parasite prevention
- Responsible antimicrobial use

- Facility design and layout
- Sanitation
- Pet acquisition, relinquishment, retention dynamics and risk factors



- Legislation
- Animal cruelty – recognition and reporting
- Compassion fatigue
- Relationship between charity and private practice

## Feedback

All students reported increased confidence in pragmatic case management.

*"The staff at SSPCA, CP and Martin Vets were all excellent, willing to answer questions, engage in discussion and seemed genuinely happy to have us there."*

*"Good balance of work and real world experience"*

*"Allows the student to perform various surgeries that crop up along the weeks"*

*"Diverse experience at SSPCA. Encompassed several areas within shelter medicine (kennel care, vet responsibilities, reporting on clinical cases)."*

*"Really aided my understanding of shelter medicine"*



## Conclusions

- Positive experience
- Effective work-place learning
- Improves confidence in pragmatic case approach and medicine on a budget
- Development of skills transferable to all aspects of veterinary medicine